

NDIP Frequently Asked Questions

How are NDIP Interns recruited?

VA uses the services of contracted organizations to recruit students from diverse backgrounds. These organizations include, but are not limited to, Minority Serving Institutions, e.g., Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, Asian American Colleges, Pacific Islander Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities.

If I don't belong to a minority group or attend a Minority Serving Institution, am I still eligible to apply?

Although the goal of the internship program is to recruit students from diverse backgrounds, the internship program is open to all students who meet the criteria of the program. Contracted organizations accept applications from **all** students, regardless of race, ethnicity, or participation as a minority serving institution.

Are students paid for their internships?

Yes, NDIP interns receive a stipend from the selecting organization. Stipend amounts vary and are based on the educational level of the student.

Are NDIP Interns VA employees?

NDIP Interns are not VA employees. Interns are employees of the contracted organization that recruited them. As a result, NDIP Interns are considered contract employees for the duration of their internship.

To obtain more information about the NDIP, please contact:

**Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Diversity and Inclusion (06)
Phone: (202) 461-4131
Email: ndip@va.gov**

**[www.diversity.va.gov/programs/
internship.aspx](http://www.diversity.va.gov/programs/internship.aspx)**

**Explore VA careers
and internships
at
www.va.gov/jobs/**



VA Mission: To fulfill President Lincoln's promise – “To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan” – by serving and honoring the men and women who are America's Veterans.



**U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs**

VA National Diversity Internship Program (NDIP)

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YOUR CAREER
POSSIBILITIES!**



UNCOVER
YOUR CAREER POSSIBILITIES

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Benefits to Students

- ✓ Career related experience
- ✓ Bi-weekly stipend
- ✓ Opportunity to explore career avenues alongside VA professionals
- ✓ Gain valuable work experience to enhance resume
- ✓ Increase self-confidence
- ✓ Enhance post-secondary learning methods
- ✓ Mentoring relationships



- ✓ Exposure to new ideas and viewpoints
- ✓ Assist VA to accomplish its mission
- ✓ Become an ambassador for VA

Internship Experience

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides students an opportunity to intern in a variety of career fields including, but not limited to:

- Medical related fields
- Human Resources
- Communications
- Business/Finance
- Contracting
- Veterans Claims Examiner
- Information Technology
- Cemetery Administration

NDIP internship sessions are 10-15 weeks long. Spring and fall sessions run from January to May and September to December, respectively. The summer session is 10 weeks long, and runs from June to August.

Interns are generally placed in a suitable intern position based on their skills, knowledge and experience. Participants are required to complete 40 hours per week on-site at a VA headquarters or field facility. Tasks include, but are not limited to: project assignments, and attending seminars, workshops, career development sessions, etc. Generally all events will occur during normal business hours.

Students selected to participate in NDIP will receive bi-weekly stipend payments from the selecting organization, and if needed, round trip transportation to the internship site, and housing at the internship location.

What is NDIP?

NDIP is VA's National Diversity Internship Program (NDIP) that provides a career exploration opportunity for current undergraduate and graduate students from diverse socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds. NDIP recruits interns through organizations that conduct outreach to diverse student populations. Students must initially apply to these recruiting organizations, and then can be placed in participating VA offices. For more information on these NDIP recruiting organizations please refer to the NDIP website: www.diversity.va.gov/programs/internship.aspx.

Who is Eligible?

- ⇒ U.S. citizen (a lawful permanent resident or otherwise legally eligible to work in the United States per FAR Part 22.18)
- ⇒ Undergraduate and graduate students who are currently enrolled, full-time or part-time, in a degree seeking program at an accredited post-secondary institution
- ⇒ Student must be in good academic standing

